UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



# Patent Public Advisory Committee Quarterly Meeting

International Update

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### **PCT Update (I)**

- New International Searching Authorities for applications filed with US Receiving Office
  - Israel
    - From 01 October 2014
    - Not competent where
      - One or more claims directed to business methods
      - Received more than 75/quarter

#### Japan

- From 01 July 2015 3 year pilot
- Only competent where
  - Claims are directed to green technology
  - Less than 300/quarter received in 1<sup>st</sup> year
  - Less than 500/quarter received in 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> years



## PCT Update (II)

- PCT Working Group
  - Transmittal of search results & classification to ISA
  - Information concerning national phase entry to be published by WIPO
  - Personally Identifiable Information may be excluded from publication
  - Excuse of delay due to general unavailability of electronic communications



#### **Collaborative Search Pilots (CSP)**

- Collaborative Search Pilot provides contemporaneous search on correlated applications in two patent offices
- Based on First Action Interview (FAI) Program
  - Additional benefit to CSP applicants Applications made special in both offices for first action
- Federal Register Notices Published July 2015
- Programs with JPO and KIPO last two years with application limits each year
  - Application counts in both offices set to ensure applicants from both countries can be equally represented



### **Collaborative Search Pilots (CSP)**

• JPO – exchange of search information will occur prior to the USPTO examiner establishing Pre-Interview Communication (PIC)



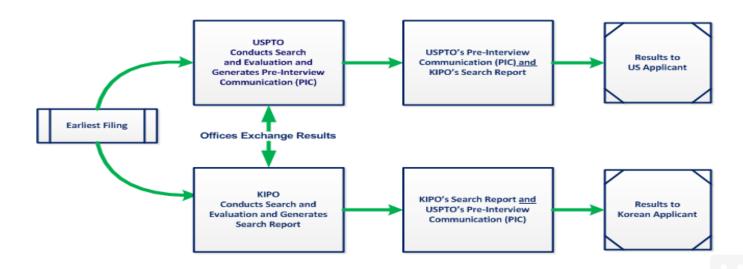
- Pilot program with JPO commenced 1 August 2015
  - 12 Petitions received in JPO in first week, corresponding petitions received in USPTO
  - Petition data updated on USPTO CSP website

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#### **Collaborative Search Pilots (CSP)**

 KIPO – Both offices conduct independent search and evaluation. Results of both offices work is provided to applicants at time of Pre-Interview Communication (PIC)



### **Hague Agreement (I)**

- The centralized acquisition and maintenance of industrial design rights
  - by filing a single international application
  - for a single international registration
  - with effect in one or more designated
     Contracting Parties



### **Hague Agreement (II)**

- Geneva Act effective in US on May 13, 2015
- WIPO Statistics
  - 2924 International Design Applications filed worldwide in 2014
  - 14,441 Designs covered
- USPTO statistics (to date)
  - Approx. 64 IDAs filed at USPTO as office of indirect filing
  - Approx. 83 IDAs sent from WIPO



#### **PPH**

- Cumulative Applications with Petitions = 33,177
- Last 12 Months Applications with Petitions = 7,597
- Month of July Applications with Petitions = 575
- Monthly Average (last 12 months) = 633
- Effective July 6, Estonia and Germany agreed to participate in Global PPH pilot program.
- Mexico joined bilateral agreement under global principles on July 1.



# Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC)

- USPTO examiners finished transition to CPC
  - o Examiners concerns regarding CPC transition being addressed
- Effective June 2015, USPC static, historical collection
- All new utility patent documents published with only CPC
- Continuous collaboration and maintenance in CPC with partner EPO

# Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC)

Expansion of CPC internationally

- 16 Patent Offices classifying directly into CPC
  - Additional Offices coming in 2016
- Working with Japan to increase classification cooperation
- Over 45 Offices and over 25,000 patent examiners search using CPC

#### **Global Dossier**

- Task Force meeting held in January 2015 to identify the next service(s) to be delivered
- Industry priorities:
  - Proof of Concept (Inter-office Document Sharing)
  - Indication of Patent Legal Status
  - Applicant Name Standardization
  - Provision of XML Documents
  - Alert Function (Change of Status, Due Dates)
- Studies and planning currently underway



## **Questions and Comments?**

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